

Table 1. Description of References Submitted to the IJC from 1912 – 2004.

Year	Case Title	Description	Initiator	Duration	Recommendations
1912	Lake of the Woods Levels	Reference to investigate and report on the regulation of the water levels in Lake of the Woods.	United States and Canada	1912 - 1917 (4 years, 11 months)	<p>The IJC recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water levels for the Lake of the Woods; 2. Establishing a Canadian Lake of the Woods Board to regulate and control the outflow of Lake of the Woods, and an International Lake of the Woods Board of Control to approve lake levels; 3. That disagreements between members of the International Lake of the Woods Board of Control are referred to the IJC for a final decision; 4. That the United States assumes all liability for a flowage easement up to elevation 1,062 feet on lands bordering on Lake of the Woods in the United States; 5. That Canada agree to pay the Government of the United States \$275,000 in consideration of these undertakings; and 6. That no diversion from the watershed shall be made except by authority of the concerned country and with approval of the IJC. <p>These recommendations resulted in the 1925 Lake of the Woods Convention and Protocol.</p>
	Pollution of Boundary Waters	Reference to examine and report on the extent, causes, and location of pollution in boundary waters, and recommend mitigation and pollution prevention measures	United States and Canada	1912 - 1918 (6 years, 11 days)	<p>The IJC recommended changes to treatment plants to reduce pollution in the boundary waters. (IJC submitted a draft treaty for carrying out these recommendations on 10/06/1920, but it was not implemented.)</p>

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	Livingstone Channel-Detroit River	Reference to investigate and report on the necessity, in the interest of navigation, of building dikes and compensating works at Bois Blanc Island near Amherstburg or elsewhere in the Detroit River to compensate for dredging and excavation being undertaken in the Livingstone Channel.	United States and Canada	1912 -1913 (6 months)	<p>The IJC concluded that dikes and compensatory works were necessary in the interests of navigation, but recommended that they could be located in another part of the river and still satisfy the navigation needs without adversely affecting Amherstburg.</p> <p>This recommendation was implemented.</p>
1914	St. Mary and Milk Rivers	Reference to evaluate the allocation of water from the St. Mary and Milk Rivers.	United States and Canada	1909-1982 (73 years)	The IJC reported that no pragmatic solution has been agreed upon. The IJC issued an order in 1921 regarding the allocation of water from the St. Mary and Milk Rivers.
1920	St. Lawrence River Navigation and Power	Reference to investigate and report on possibilities of improving the St. Lawrence River between Lake Ontario and Montreal for deep water navigation and power generation.	United States and Canada	1920 -1922 (2 years)	<p>The IJC recommended that Canada and the United States enter into an agreement to improve the St. Lawrence River between Montreal and Lake Ontario.</p> <p>On July 18, 1932, a Treaty was signed, but was not ratified by the U.S. Senate. On March 19, 1941, an Agreement was signed by Canada and the United States, providing for development of navigation and power in the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Basin, but was not approved by the U.S. Congress.</p>

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	Rainy Lake Levels	Reference to conduct investigations on the regulation for various purposes of levels of Rainy Lake, Namakan Lake and boundary waters above Namakan Lake.	Not specified	1926 -1934 (7 years, 2 months)	<p>The IJC recommended that it was not necessary to regulate the levels of Rainy Lake, Namaken Lake, and the boundary waters above Namakan lake; and that the construction of power works is not necessary or desirable, yet would keep open the possibility for the approval of a reasonable development of storage facilities upon the waters above Namakan.</p> <p>The report led to the signing of the Rainy Lake Convention on September 15, 1938; which entered into force on October 3, 1940. The Convention provides the IJC with the power to control water levels in Rainy Lake in emergency conditions.</p>
1929	Roseau River Drainage	Reference to investigate the effects of past construction on the Roseau River basin and to determine who should pay for works if such were required to mitigate adverse effects. The IJC was also asked to determine if and how the basin could best be developed on a co-ordinated international basis.	United States and Canada	1928 -1975 (47 years)	<p>The 1929 interim report recommended that the Gardenton floodway would not raise water levels at the boundary; and that the governments complete the necessary work pertaining to the reference and report to the IJC. No significant work on the reference was done until 1975.</p> <p>In 1975, a final report recommended that the governments adopt a Coordinated Plan prepared by the IJC board and that proposed channel modifications be allowed to go ahead concurrently with mitigating works in Canada, with the stipulation that these mitigating works be paid for by the United States.</p>
1936	Champlain Waterway – Deep Waterway from St. Lawrence to Hudson River	Reference to investigate the practicability of a deep waterway from the St. Lawrence River to the Hudson River via Lake Champlain.	United States and Canada	1936 - 1938 (2 years)	IJC recommended that it should be authorized to retain jurisdiction over the matter until the completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

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1940	Souris River Water Allocation	Reference to investigate and report on the regulation, use and flow of the Souris River and its tributaries and the apportionment of water between the two countries.	United States and Canada	1940 - 1940 (10 months)	<p>In 1940, the IJC made interim recommendations that included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permission for both Saskatchewan and North Dakota to continue their present use of the Souris River waters; 2. Permission for Saskatchewan to construct a reservoir with a capacity not to exceed 4,000 acre-feet at Weyburn; 3. Permission for North Dakota to construct a 200 acre-foot reservoir on Long Creek; 4. A regulated flow of 10 cubic feet/second to be released from the State of North Dakota to Manitoba from June to October each year; and 5. Applications for additional storage works or use of Souris River waters to be made to the IJC for approval. (Several Orders of Approval were made by the IJC from 1941 to 1956). <p>Governments approved interim measures recommended by the IJC in 1941. Docket under the International Souris River Board of Control. In 1959, changes to the 1940 interim measures were approved.</p>
	Rainy Lake Watershed – Emergency Conditions in Rainy and Namakan Lakes	Following the Rainy Lake Convention	IJC	1940 -1949 (8 years, 8 months)	The IJC initiated necessary studies to fulfil its obligations. These studies led to the issuing of an order on June 8, 1949 (1949 rule curve) determining when emergency conditions exist and prescribing the method of regulating levels to preclude the occurrence of such emergency conditions on Rainy and Namakan Lakes.
1944	Columbia River	Reference to investigate and make recommendations for greater use and development of the waters of the Columbia River System.	United States and Canada	1944 - 1959 (15 years)	Recommendations were not available. However, this reference led to the Columbia River Development Treaty (signed on Jan. 17, 1961; ratified Sept 16, 1964). A final report was issued in 1968.

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1946	Sage Creek allocation of water supplies	Reference to examine and report upon the facts and circumstances concerning a complaint made by a Montana rancher that the water that normally flowed in Sage Creek into the United States was being appropriated in Alberta.	United States And Canada	1946 -1967 (11 years, 6 months)	<p>The IJC recommended that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Appropriate agencies continue to collect run-off data in the Sage Creek basin; 2. Alberta designate a Water Master to supervise operations and ensure a fair and equitable apportionment of water between ranches in Montana and Alberta; 3. Montana maintain an informal liaison with Alberta's water master; and 4.Alberta and Montana urge all water users to keep creek channels as unobstructed as practicable <p>The recommendations were not implemented by the Governments.</p>
	Pollution of St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair and Detroit River and St. Marys River	Reference to examine and report on the extent, causes, and location of pollution in St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, and Detroit River. Further, the IJC was asked to recommend possible remedies or means of preventing the pollution of these waters.	United States and Canada	1946 – 1950 (4 years)	<p>The IJC recommended remedial measures as well as water quality objectives. The IJC also recommended monitoring of boundary waters pollution. The reference was later extended to include the St. Mary's river (October 2, 1946) and the Niagara River (April 2, 1948)</p> <p>The recommendations were implemented and two IJC boards were created to monitor pollution. The monitoring of these waters was also implemented in the 1978 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.</p>
1948	Pollution of Niagara River	See above	See above	See above	See above
	Northern States Power Company – number assigned in error	Number assigned in error. Matter raised was settled in Docket 41.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable.

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	Waterton and Belly Rivers – Further Uses and allocation of Waters	Reference to investigate and recommend use and allocation of water supplies, as well as the conservation, control and utilization of the waters of the Waterton and Belly Rivers, which flow from Montana to Alberta.	United States	1948 – 1955 (7 years)	The Commissioners divided on national lines on the question of apportionment based on existing and future uses in each country. The Canadian section reported separately to the Canadian Government in 1955 in accordance with the rules of Procedure, while the United States section communicated their views informally to the U.S. State Department.
	Souris and Red Rivers – Further Uses and Apportionment of Waters	Reference to investigate and make recommendations on water use and allocation, and management plans for the waters of those river basins bisected by the international boundary from the eastern boundary of the Milk River drainage basin on the west up to and including the drainage basin of the Red River on the east.	United States and Canada	1948 - Present	An International Souris-Red Rivers Engineering Board was created and still reports on its ongoing activities. The Board identifies issues and conducts preliminary studies. It has not generally been called upon to provide a detailed assessment or evaluation or to provide recommendations for resolution of problems. With the exception of the Poplar River apportionment, all substantive problems which have arisen within the 1948 Reference area have been or are being dealt with by separate reference or through bilateral mechanisms.

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	Passamaquoddy Tidal Power	Reference to review existing plans for the development of tidal power in Passamaquoddy and Cobscook Bays and evaluate the costs of investigations required to determine the practicability of any of the plans.	United States and Canada	1948 - 1950 (2 years)	The IJC concluded that the cost of the necessary survey to determine the economic feasibility of the project would be \$3.9 million including \$300,000 for investigation of the fish problem. Subsequent to the IJC's report, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Geological Survey prepared a revised cost estimate of \$3.0 million including \$300,000 for fisheries investigations.
1949	Air Pollution in Windsor-Detroit Area from Vessels	Reference to inquire into and report on the extent and sources of air pollution in the vicinity of Detroit and Windsor, and to recommend measures to mitigate smoke from ships on the Detroit River.	United States and Canada	1949 - 1960 (11 years)	The IJC recommended measures to reduce smoke emissions from vessels on the Detroit River. The governments approved these and asked the IJC to monitor results. The IJC monitored until 1970 and left further action for enforcement under domestic laws.
1950	Saint John River – Water Resources of the Basin Above Grand Falls	Reference to study resources of the Saint John River above Grand Falls and recommend projects for the conservation and regulation of the waters. On July 7, 1952, the reference was amended to cover the river downstream to tidewater near Fredericton, New Brunswick.	United States and Canada	1950 - 1971 (21 years)	<p>The IJC concluded in its 1954 interim report that further studies would be required to evaluate specific projects in the basin, and it was untimely to suggest specific international projects until clear cut proposals were made by governmental or private interests. The recommendation that the IJC continue study was approved by governments.</p> <p>IJC studies through the International Saint John River Engineering Board continued until 1971 at which time the reference was deemed to have been completed and the Board was disbanded.</p>

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	Niagara Falls – Preservation and enhancement of their beauty	Reference to investigate and make recommendations concerning the nature and design of remedial works necessary to enhance the beauty of Niagara Falls, while at the same time permitting the production of added power envisaged by the 1950 Treaty.	United States and Canada	1950 - 1953 (3 years, 2 months)	<p>The IJC recommended the construction of the Chippewa Grass Island Pool structure extending out from the Canadian shore into the Niagara River, and that excavation and fill immediately upstream of both the Canadian and American flanks of the Horseshoe Cascade continue.</p> <p>The construction of remedial works and operation of control works was supervised by the International Niagara Board of Control.</p>
1952	Lake Ontario Levels	Reference to determine whether the level of Lake Ontario could be regulated to reduce extremes in high and low water levels	United States and Canada	1952 - 1961 (8 years, 10 months)	The IJC recommended that the two governments should adopt a range of mean monthly elevations for Lake Ontario of 244 to 248 feet, and criteria for regulating outflows and inflows applicable to the St. Lawrence Power facility. This was approved by both governments and implemented.
1955	St. Croix River Use, Conservation, and Regulation.	Reference to study the development of water resources in the St. Croix River basin and to recommend actions for the use, conservation, and regulation of the basin's waters.	United States and Canada	1955 - 1959 (4 years)	The IJC recommended improving water quality in the boundary waters of the St. Croix River basin to allow restoration of anadromous fish runs. This was adopted by both governments in 1961. Pollution is still being actively monitored today by the International Advisory Board on Pollution Control – St. Croix River.
1956	Passamaquoddy Tidal Power	Reference to estimate the cost of developing the international tidal power potential of Passamaquoddy Bay jointly between the United States and Canada. Also, to	United States and Canada	1956 - 1961 (4 years, 8 months)	The IJC reported that it would not be economically feasible under the existing conditions of technology and power requirements to develop the project jointly.

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		determine the economic feasibility of the project and its effects on the local and national economies.			
1959	Rainy River and Lake of the Woods Pollution.	Reference to determine whether transboundary pollution of the Rainy River or Lake of the Woods was occurring; and to determine the extent, causes and location of pollution. Also, to recommend mitigation measures.	United States and Canada	1959 - 1965 (5 years, 9 months)	The IJC recommended: 1. The same water quality objectives for the Rainy River as had been proposed for all boundary waters and recommended by the two governments for purposes under Article IV of the 1909 Treaty; 2. The use of water quality standards of the State of Minnesota and Province of Ontario as the minimal criteria in formulating standards for the Rainy River; and 3. That the IJC be authorized to monitor pollution in the Rainy River, similar to existing monitoring in connecting channels.
1961	Additional Remedial Works above Niagara Falls.	Reference to report on the measures or works necessary above the Niagara Falls to permit compliance with the objectives of the IJC's report of May 5, 1953. Also, to report if flows over the Falls could be less than specified under the Niagara Treaty of 1950 without detriment to the scenic beauty of the Falls.	United States and Canada	1961 - 1961 (6 weeks)	In an interim report, the IJC recommended extending existing control structures and that they be supervised by the existing board. The report led to additional studies and an application by the Ontario Hydro and the Power Authority of the State of New York to construct extend control structures. The reference was amended in 1962, when the governments withdrew the request for recommendations relating to a decrease in the flow over the Falls.

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1962	Pembina River – Cooperative Development of Water Resources	Reference to investigate and report on measures to develop the water resources of the Pembina River Basin in Manitoba and North Dakota, and to determine what plan or plans of co-operative development would be practical, economically feasible and to the advantage of the two countries.	The IJC submitted this reference based on an Board recommendation. Later the United States and Canada submitted a reference	1962 - 1967 (5 years)	<p>The IJC recommended that Canada and the United States implement a plan of cooperative development of the water resources of the Pembina River Basin through the construction of projects to maximize flood control, water supply, irrigation, recreation and fishery benefits. The IJC also recommended that 12% of the total annual water yield should be reserved for non-project purposes (7% in Manitoba and 5% in North Dakota), and the remainder allocated for project purposes (60% in Canada and 40% in the United States).</p> <p>The recommendations were not acted upon.</p>
	Champlain Waterway – Commercial Navigation	Reference to report on the feasibility and economic advantages of improving or developing a waterway from the St. Lawrence River in Canada through Lake Champlain to the Hudson River at Albany in the United States.	United States and Canada	1962 -1967 (5 years)	The IJC concluded that, although the improvement of the existing waterway or the development of other routes connecting the St. Lawrence at or near Montreal with the Hudson River at Albany was possible, it would not be economically feasible.

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1964	Great Lakes Levels	Reference to determine whether measures within the Great Lakes Basin can be taken to regulate the water levels of the Great Lakes to reduce extreme low and high water stages.	United States and Canada	1964 – 1976 (12 years)	<p>The IJC concluded that water level fluctuations in the Great Lakes are primarily caused by nature and only a limited reduction in the range of water levels is practical. The IJC also described its investigation in regulation plans for two to five lakes, and concluded that protection from high and low water levels cannot be achieved from lake regulation alone. The IJC recommended that it be authorized to study the environmental and regulatory effects of water levels in the Great Lakes, including the effects of existing and new diversions, future consumption of water, and the use of improved meteorologic, hydrologic, and hydraulic network in the basin. Lastly, the IJC recommended that the governments achieve the greatest possible degree of compatibility in shoreline land-use regulations and coordinate studies to determine the causes of erosion and the varying rates of erosion along the shorelines.</p> <p>Both governments responded to this report with requests for new references.</p>
	Pollution of Lower Great Lakes	Reference to study the pollution of Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the international section of the St. Lawrence River.	United States and Canada	1964 – 1970 (6 years)	<p>In the final report in 1970, the IJC recommended urgent remedial actions by the two Governments, and all responsible jurisdictions in both countries as well as the need of the governments to commit to each other on water quality objectives and programs to achieve them. The IJC also recommended that it be authorized to monitor water quality and the effectiveness of pollution abatement programs; and that the reference be extended to an investigation of pollution in the remaining boundary waters in the Great Lakes watershed.</p> <p>The implementation of these recommendations resulted in the Canada-United States Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement signed April 15, 1972.</p>
1966	Air Pollution	Reference to examine air pollution in the vicinity of Port Huron-Sarnia and Detroit-Windsor. The IJC was asked if air pollution was detrimental to public health or property on	United States and Canada	1966 – 1972 (6 years)	<p>The IJC confirmed the existence of air pollution and quantified the extent of problem in the area specified. The IJC recommended specific air quality objectives, and a detailed study of pollution in Detroit-St. Clair River Areas. Ongoing activities along the boundary are currently supervised by the International Air Quality Advisory Board.</p>

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		the each side of the boundary. If pollution was detrimental, what were the sources, and extent of the pollution, what remedial measures could be implemented.			
1967	American Falls – Niagara River	Reference to investigate and report upon measures necessary to preserve and enhance the beauty of the American Falls at Niagara.	United States and Canada	1967 - 1975 (8 years, 3 months)	<p>The IJC recommended that at this time no measures be taken to enhance the beauty of the American Falls, including removal of talus or artificial stabilization. The IJC also recommended that the governments study the full range of possibilities of preserving and enhancing the Niagara Falls, and discourage development that would detract from the visual enjoyment of the Niagara Falls.</p> <p>The governments have not responded to these recommendations.</p>
1971	Skagit River – impacts of flooding on the environment	Reference to make recommendations for the protection and enhancement of the environment and the ecology of the Skagit River Valley, consistent with previous orders and agreements.	United States and Canada	1971 - 1971 (7 months)	The IJC recommended that mitigation and enhancement projects be undertaken to protect and enhance the natural environment and recreational opportunities.

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	Point Roberts – Socio-economic issues.	Reference to investigate and recommend measures to improve lifestyle of residents of Point Roberts, Washington. Residents of Point Roberts (U.S. territory) must traverse through Canada to reach other U.S. territory. Problems such as the application of customs laws, regulations governing employment, health and medical services, among others are to be examined.	United States and Canada	1971 - 1977 (6 years, 4 months)	The IJC initially recommended an international conservation area for the region. Many in the proposed area disagreed with this recommendation and state and provincial based boards were set up to investigate the issue further. After not reaching a conclusion, the IJC recommended that the Board's work could not be carried any further until the various levels of government accepted the necessity for bi-national cooperation. It recommended that the United States and Canada encourage the necessary state-provincial discussions to determine the population and development level of Point Roberts for which British Columbia might be willing to provide specific essential services.
1972	Pollution of Upper Great Lakes	Reference to conduct a study of water quality in Lake Huron and Lake Superior, and recommend remedial measures to restore and protect water quality in the Lakes.	United States and Canada	1972 -1979 (7 years)	The IJC endorsed findings of its board and recommended stronger controls on phosphorus and other toxic substances. The IJC also recommended controls on development and growth in the region, and a management plan to use scientific and technical information and encourage public education, development of waste treatment technology, and industry participation.
	Pollution of Great Lakes from Land Use Activities.	Reference to conduct a study of pollution of the boundary waters of the Great Lakes System from agriculture, forestry and other land use activities.	United States and Canada	1972 - 1980 (12 years)	The IJC reported that runoff from farms and urban areas is causing a greater amount of pollution in the Great Lakes than previously recognized, and that controlling non-point pollution would require a comprehensive management strategy. The recommendations addressed issues involving nutrient loading into the Great Lakes, non-point sources of pollution, toxic and hazardous wastes, and waste disposal.

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	Saint John River Water Quality	Reference to study and report on what activities need to be taken by the United States and Canada for protecting and improving water quality in the Saint John River.	United States and Canada	1972 - 1977 (4 years, 7 months)	The IJC recommended a Canada - U.S. Water Quality Agreement for the Saint John River Basin and for the adoption of water quality objectives recommended by the committee report submitted by the IJC.
1973	Richelieu-Champlain Regulation	Reference to investigate and report on the feasibility and desirability of regulating the flooding of the Richelieu River in the Province of Quebec.	United States and Canada	1973 - 1981 (7 years, 10 months)	<p>In a 1975 interim report, the IJC recommended further studies to determine the environmental effects and net benefits of regulating the Richelieu River in both countries. This was endorsed by both governments.</p> <p>The IJC recommended a control structure in St. Jean, Quebec, to be operated to meet environmental criteria, yet did not address the implementation of control projects, which it contended is a task for both governments. The IJC also recommended a flood forecasting and warning system, as well as floodplain regulation and flood-proofing that would reduce flood damage.</p>
1975	Air Quality in Michigan and Ontario	Reference to examine and report the current and past status of air quality in the Detroit-Windsor and Port Huron-Sarnia areas on a regular basis.	United States and Canada	1975 - 1984 (8 years, 7 months)	The IJC issued a report stating that 90% of the region abides by controls set for limiting sulfur dioxide emissions. The report also states that measuring the pollution of just three substances may not be adequate to provide a sense of air pollution in the region. No specific recommendations were given in the report; however, in 1988 there was a request to recommence the work
	Garrison Diversion Project	Reference to examine the potential pollution of transboundary waters by Garrison Diversion Unit, authorized by Congress in 1965.	United States and Canada	1975 - 1977 (2 years)	The IJC recommended that portions of the Garrison Diversion Unit which could affect waters flowing into Canada should not be built at this time, and that negotiations for a water quality agreement for the Souris and Red Rivers be made.
1977	Lake Erie Regulation	Reference to determine the possibilities for limited regulation of Lake Erie in order to reduce flood and erosion problems.	United States and Canada	1977 - 1983 (6 years, 9 months)	The IJC determined that there would be economic losses outweighing benefits from limited regulation of Lake Erie as examined and recommended that no further studies of limited regulation of Lake Erie be undertaken. Further, the IJC recommended that better coastal zone management practices and an information program be implemented to reduce flood and erosion damages.

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	Great Lakes Diversions and Consumptive Uses	Reference to examine and report the effects of existing and proposed diversions within, into, or out of the Great Lakes basin and the effects of consumptive uses on Great Lakes water levels and flows.	United States and Canada	1977 - 1985 (8 years)	The IJC recommended that: 1. A bilateral committee monitor diversions and consumptive uses in the Great Lakes basin and report on Lake conditions no less than biennially; 2. A bilateral task force on diversions and consumptive uses to update and assess the impacts of consumptive use projections and review the potential for new or changed diversions; 3. Current public policies having an effect on consumptive uses be reviewed; 4. The status of existing and possible future diversions into the Great Lakes be reviewed; 5. Better coastal zone management should be ensured; and 6. A process of notice and consultation before additional new or changed diversions are approved.
	Great Lakes Technical Information Network	Reference to provide advice and recommendations on meteorological, hydrologic, and hydraulic data needs to improve the Great Lakes data collection network.	United States and Canada	1977 - 1985 (7 years, 11 months)	The IJC recommended that a formal coordinating committee be established for assessing Great Lakes basin hydraulic and hydro-meteorological data needs, and that the two governments consider establishing a committee through a bilateral agreement.
	Great Lakes Basin Water Supply, Levels and Flows	Reference to establish an advisory board to assist the IJC's responsibilities regarding Great Lakes water supplies, levels and flows.	United States and Canada	1977 - present	The International Great Lakes Levels Advisory Board was established in August 1979 and the International Great Lakes Technical Information Network Board was created later.

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	Poplar River Water Quality	Reference to examine water quality of the Poplar River including the transboundary water implications of a thermal power station and its ancillary facilities.	United States and Canada	1977 - 1981 (3 years, 6 months)	The IJC reported that the thermal power station would likely have some adverse effect on water quality downstream of the international boundary, but that the provisions of Article IV of the Boundary Waters Treaty could be abided by in the Poplar River basin without delaying operation of the power station. The IJC recommended a bilateral group to monitor water quality and quantity in the Poplar River, and options by which water users in Montana could seek compensation for losses that might be attributed to the power station.
1985	Flathead River	Reference to examine water quality and quantity of the Flathead River, relating to the transboundary water quality and quantity implications of the proposed coal mine development in British Columbia; and to make recommendations which would assist Governments in ensuring that the provisions of Article IV of the Boundary Waters Treaty are honoured.	United States and Canada	1985 - 1989 (4 years)	The IJC recommended that the proposal to develop coal mines in the region not be approved, and not receive regulatory approval in the future unless: (a) the potential transboundary impacts identified in the report of the Flathead River International Study Board constitute a level of risk acceptable to both governments; and (b) the potential impacts on the sport fish populations and habitat in the Flathead River system were fully mitigated. The IJC also recommended that the governments consider opportunities for defining and implementing development activities and management strategies in the upper Flathead River basin.
1986	Great Lakes Levels	Reference to examine and report methods of alleviating the adverse consequences of fluctuating water levels in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin.	United States and Canada	1986 -1994 (7 years, 7 months)	The IJC provided interim recommendations to the governments at various times during the studies. The final recommendations of the IJC included a range of actions to alleviate the damage of fluctuating water levels, such as promoting shoreline management measures; preventing the construction of new dams and control works; establishing a binational information center; and improving data gathering and analysis.
1997	Red River Flooding	Reference to investigate the causes and effects of flooding in the Red River Basin.	United States and Canada	1997 – present	An interim report by the IJC in 1997 stated that measures should be undertaken to prepare for possible floods in the short term. In this report, the IJC made 40 recommendations regarding flood forecasting, monitoring improvements, emergency measures and planning, environmental concerns,

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					and floodplain management.
1998	Watershed Board Reference	Reference to define the framework for operating international watershed boards as recommended by the IJC in a previous report.	United States and Canada	1998 - present	In an interim report, published in 2000, the IJC recommended that the governments approve the gradual development of the IJC's International Red River Board as an international watershed board. The IJC also recommended that the governments provide resources to support this effort.
	Ontario Hydro Water Diversion in Niagara River	Reference to assess the Ontario Hydro Redevelopment Project and its potential transboundary and environmental effects.	United States and Canada	1998 - present	The IJC recommended in an interim report that the governments should construct the first tunnel in the project, since no significant transboundary effects are anticipated. Further, the IJC recommended that further binational review should continue, and that Ontario Hydro should monitor effects of the project on water flow and the environment. Also, if any transboundary effects occur, Ontario Hydro should mitigate for them.
1999	Water Uses Reference	Reference to examine and report on how the consumptive use and removal of water, diversions, and management and policies regarding water resources; affect the levels, flows, and sustainability of water supplies in transboundary basins.	United States and Canada	1999 – 2000 (1 year)	The IJC recommended that bulk water removals could be allowed if it did not endanger the ecosystem and met several criteria including sound planning practices, and that water removals did not result in a greater than 5% reduction in water levels of the Great Lakes. Recommendations for water conservation, groundwater withdrawals, and potential impacts of climate change were also given. The IJC also recommended that further data and monitoring also been done to evaluate the effects of water withdrawals.
2004	Alburg-Swanton Bridge and Missisquoi Bay causeway	Reference to evaluate the potential transboundary impacts of removing the Missisquoi Bay causeway and a proposed new bridge.	United States and Canada	2004 – 2005 (9 months)	The IJC reported that the removal of the causeway would not cause transboundary impacts or environmental harm. However, the IJC noted that phosphorus pollution in the Missisquoi Bay was severe and that mitigation measures to reduce phosphorus in the Bay should be taken.

Source: Congressional Research Service.